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her promise to keep his death secret for a time from every one but Albrechtsberger, that he might thus have an advantage over other candidates for the vacant office of kapellmeister to St. Stephen's. His desire in this respect was gratified, for Albrechtsberger received the appointment. As he looked over the pages of the *Requiem* for the last time, he said, with tears in his eyes, 'Did not I tell you that I was writing this for myself?'

"On the arrival of the physician, Dr. Closset, cold applications were ordered to his burning head, a process endured by the patient with extreme shuddering, and which brought on the delirium from which he never recovered. He remained in this state for two hours, and at midnight expired."

Thus died Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, at the age of thirty-five years and ten months. The funeral, with the arrangements for which Baron von Swieten charged himself, was unostentatious to meanness, and far from such as befitted the obsequies of so great a man. The mortal remains of the composer were deposited in the cemetery of St. Marxer Linie, near Vienna.

A common undistinguished grave received the coffin, which was then left without memorial—almost forgotten—for nearly twenty years; and when, in 1808, some inquiries were made as to the precise spot of the interment, all that the sexton could tell was that, at the latter end of 1791, the space about the third and fourth row from the cross was being occupied with graves; but the contents of these graves being from time to time exhumed, nothing could be determined concerning that which was once Mozart.

If a tomb be wanting to mark the spot where these poor mortal remains were laid, there are abundant mementos erected in every musical heart bearing reverent and grateful tribute to his immortal genius; and amongst his most enduring monuments, surely may be reckoned his *Requiem Mass*.—[ED. MUS. TIMES.]

RULES FOR CHORAL SOCIETIES.

WE have been so often asked by individual correspondents to furnish them with rules for contemplated societies, that we propose to print a set, with other suggestions, the result of actual experience. In the mean time we would request a copy of rules belonging to any society at present in existence, and would feel much obliged if they were kindly forwarded to Dean-street any time before the end of February.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

This Journal will be published fortnightly until August next, on the 1st and 15th of the month.

The late hour at which Advertisements reach us interferes much with their proper classification.

Colored Envelopes are sent to all Subscribers whose payment in advance is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscriber neglects to renew. We again remind those who are disappointed in getting back numbers, that only the music pages are stereotyped, and of the rest of the paper, only sufficient are printed to supply the current sale.

J. T., Swansea.—Industry and perseverance may do much, even under the deprivation he speaks of.

C. J. D., Hoxton, is thanked for his suggestion; which we regret is not practicable.

Diapason.—We thank you for your proposal to send us the communication in question.

A Handelian.—Let him try his own proposal, and see how much he'd be in (or out of) pocket at the end of the year.

Will any correspondent apprise us where a copy of "Ye Midnight Shades o'er Nature spread," (funeral anthem, by Dr. Callcott,) may be found?

R. H. S. will find an account of Farinelli in Hawkins's History of Music. We scarcely think interest would attach to the other subject he mentions.

A. K.—Respectfully declined.

E. T. M.—Handel's Julius Cæsar exists, in the original edition, in many old libraries. We have frequently declined to recommend works, for obvious reasons.

G. G., Liverpool.—The price of three volumes is two at 12s. and one at 8s. The second can be had separately—12s.

Basso.—It appears to us that "Thorough Bass" cannot be studied with advantage so fragmentarily as he proposes.

A Tenor.—See page 312 of the Musical Times for the way to gain admission to the orchestra of the Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall.

A Young Organist should take lessons of a master in whom he has confidence, and abide by his opinion.

Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

THE DELEGATES OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, during the Christmas week, gave an entertainment to their workmen and boys, and to the wives and children. Afterwards the work-people gave a concert, at which the Mayor and many ladies and gentlemen were present. The University Press establishment "educates 150 boys who are employed on it, and they meet every evening for an hour or two, for instruction. In addition to this, they have formed a brass band among the workmen, and supplied them with musical instruments; and the performers have in a short time attained great proficiency."

MANCHESTER CONCERT HALL.—A grand performance of Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* took place here during Christmas. The accommodations of the hall are felt to be inadequate upon such occasions; and it is hoped that the re-erection of the Free Trade Hall will supply the requirements of the Manchester musical public in this particular. So large a community, and one which possesses so marked a taste for good music, should not be without space and convenience fitted for the indulgence of such laudable predilection.

A NEW ORGAN, just completed for Providence Chapel, Rochdale, was opened by Mr. Best, the organist, to the great satisfaction of those present. The organ is described as being built by Mr. Groves, of London, upon the German plan. The programme of performance comprised selections from Handel, Bach, Rinck, Weber, Mozart, Spohr, and Mendelssohn.

PETERBOROUGH.—A lecture on "Church Music," with especial reference to the choral service of the cathedral, was lately delivered at this place by Sir Henry Dryden, Bart. It entered into minute directions for the training and organizing of choirs, and pointed out the faults in taste and pronunciation usually committed by singers. The lecture was succeeded by some excellent selections of glees and part-music, well performed by the members of the choir. This is the first of a series of lectures to be given at Peterborough, at the instigation of the Dean, with the view of improving the cathedral choral service.

HULL HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The tenth annual meeting of this Society took place on the 6th January, at the Public Rooms, Mr. O. P. Tarbotton in the chair. The treasurer's account was considered highly satisfactory, the subscription list being well kept up. The unanimous thanks of the meeting were given to Mr. George Levy, the talented conductor; to Mr. R. W. Hall, the organist; to Mr. John Wilson, the leader; and to the treasurer, secretary, outgoing committee, &c.

THE HULL VOCAL SOCIETY gave one of its usual delightful concerts on the 11th of January. The careful rehearsals, which, under the judicious management of Mr. Skelton, the conductor, uniformly precede these performances, constitute the main cause of their excellence.

MR. T. WILLIAMS has resumed his professional duties; having recovered from the accident he met with, in breaking his leg.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—A Soirée will be given to the Rt. Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson, M.P., in honor of the Repeal of the Advertisment Duty, on Wednesday, February 8th, at the Whittington Club.

DIBDIN.—Before he became his own publisher, Dibdin sold many of his songs for very trifling sums; that of "Poll and my Partner Joe" for two guineas, although it produced at least two hundred guineas to the publisher; and the song of "Nothing like Grog" he sold for half-a-guinea. The song of the "Greenwich Pensioner" was so well received, that he printed of it nearly 10,000 copies, and cleared by it more than £400. Dibdin declared that this song was both written and composed in less than an hour. On the first publication of the song of "Poor Jack," more than 17,000 copies were sold.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—The Whiting Street Chapel Sacred Music Society has recently held two meetings in the New School Room, open to Subscribers and their friends. On the 20th of December a selection was given from Haydn's *Creation* and Handel's *Samson*, and on the 6th instant the *Messiah*. It is the intention of the Society to give *Judas Maccabæus* on the 27th.

MR. GEORGE GENGÉ gave his Annual Concert at the Hanover Square Rooms, on the 3rd of January. His programme contained a selection of the most popular music of the day, and his numerous patrons and friends were regaled with a very agreeable entertainment. Mr. Genge was warmly received and deservedly applauded.

MALTON.—The Philharmonic Society, here, gave a Miscellaneous Concert on Thursday. Messrs. Lambert and Hunt presided at the Pianoforte.

THE CLACKEATON PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY gave their Annual Concert on the 13th of January. First Part, *Deliverance of Israel*, by W. Jackson, of Masham; and the Second Part, a Miscellaneous Selection.

DRESDEN.—A new opera, by Nicolai, called *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, has been produced here with success. The *prima donna* is a Miss Jenny Ney, who is well spoken of.—Mad. Lind Goldschmidt has been singing at Concerts at the Hotel de Saxe.

HENRY PURCELL.—Messrs. Colnaghi and Co., of Pall-Mall East, have issued proposals to publish the engraved portrait of our great English Composer, after the picture by Closterman, in the possession of the Royal Society of Musicians.

THE "MUSICAL WORLD," we are informed, has passed into the hands of Messrs. Boosey and Co.; and announces its thirty-second volume.

THE LONDON ORCHESTRA.—Under this somewhat ambitious title, a body of musicians have incorporated themselves—their object being similar (as we understand it) to that of the Orchestral Union: Mr. F. Mori is appointed the conductor; and the first concert has been given. The fugitive nature of such plans has hitherto made itself manifest, and although the Orchestral Union still maintains its place amongst us, the occasion for another such association is, to our practical observation, very questionable.

THE PENALTY OF CRITICISM.—The manager of the Italian Opera at New York, has just recovered the substantial consolation of ten thousand dollars from the pro-

prietors of the *New York Herald*, for strictures made upon himself and his management. The manager feeling himself aggrieved by the critic's remarks, appealed to a jury, who, taking the same view of the matter as the manager himself, decreed him injured to the amount above stated. The proprietors of the *Herald* differ in their estimation of the damage done, and therefore have moved for a new trial.

HERR HENSCHEL, once the tutor of Weber and of Freiderich Schneider, died recently at Biberich, in the seventy-second year of his age: Henschel was also the master of Lortzing.

ORGANISTS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS.—We have frequently been led to remark upon the scanty remuneration generally awarded to organists. The last occasion has been rendered more than usually significant. A correspondent, last year, in complimenting the *Musical Times* for bringing the grievances of organists more prominently into notice, sent an advertisement, for the October Number, which he had cut from a provincial paper, of which the following is a copy:—

"ORGAN.—Wanted, a respectable man to act as Turnkey in a County Prison. One who understands Music, can play the Organ, and sing bass, would be preferred.—For further particulars, apply, post-paid, to T. T. S., Post-office, Troy."

We have merely recurred now to the subject to remark upon the strange manner in which the advertisement has travelled;—it first appeared in a provincial paper, from which it was taken and sent to us, when it formed the text for comment, and was printed in our journal; from thence it found its way into a German periodical: it appeared afterwards in the regular advertising columns of an American paper, from whence it was transferred, and commented upon, by the English *Athenæum*. We had our suspicion at the time, that the insertion of it in the first instance was a hoax, intended to direct public notice to the inadequacy of the remuneration of church organists; this no doubt was its origin. How well the intention of the author of the joke has been fulfilled, the statement we have here made will readily show.

DONIZETTI'S "ELISABETH."—A correspondent at Paris writes—"I attended the performance of the posthumous opera by Donizetti on the first night. Without bringing my old prejudice against this favorite composer to bear, I can conscientiously state that it produced but little excitement, quite as much however as its merits entitle it to."

GRISI AND VIARDOT.—We have been told that neither of these artists are likely to make an early appearance next season: meanwhile there is a rumour prevalent that Her Majesty's Theatre will open in the Spring, and that Mr. Costa is about to leave the Royal Italian.

MR. BENEDICT'S "CRUSADERS" has met with unqualified success at Munich. Herren Kindermann, Hartinger, Pellegrini, Brandes, and Mesdames Hefner and Diez, were engaged in its representation.

PORTSMOUTH MUSICAL UNION.—A newly-formed Amateur Society gave their first Concert on January 5th. Mr. W. C. Ellis, conductor.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS.—An interesting account of Carol Singing at East Grinstead, on Christmas-eve, reached us too late for insertion last month. The townsfolk collected in delighted numbers to hear them sung from the little book prepared by the Revs. J. M. Neale and T. Helmore.

NOTTINGHAM.—The vocal class at the Mechanics' Institution have presented an elegantly-carved music-stand to their instructor, Mr. Wm. Sheldermine, "in token of their high esteem, and in acknowledgment of his able services and affable demeanour."

NEW YORK.—The large concert-room called Metropolitan Hall, and the adjoining hotel, have been totally destroyed by fire.

MILAN.—Verdi's opera of *Rigoletto* has been revived (on the 18th January, and frequently played since), to the delight of the Milanese, who know every note of it, and particularly admire the reading of Clara Novello and Corsi (tenor) in their several parts.

CONCERTS IN THE COUNTRY.—It is gratifying to find, from the numerous intimations we receive, that societies for the practice of choral music, psalmody, glees, &c., are springing up in various directions, although their individual chronicling would be of little interest to the general reader. The following are some of them :—

Golcar, Mr. E. Taylor's concert at. 28th December.
Shaw tea-party and concert; conductor, Mr. J. Winterbottom. 2nd January.
South Kirkby Amateur Choral Society. 5th January.
Masham Church Choir. 6th January.
Penzance Amateur Glee Singers. 6th January.
Castleton Moor (near Rochdale) Village Schools' opening; musical director. Mr. Winterbottom. 9th Jan.
Putney, concert in aid of the Singing Association; conductor, Mr. John Grey. 17th January.
Boxford Choir Concert. 17th January.

MILAN.—(From the *Illustrated London News*).—The appearance of a new and successful composer in Italy—where, for so many years, nothing has been heard but the weak and worn-out operas of Verdi—is an occurrence of much interest. A correspondent at Milan writes to us as follows :—

"The opening of the Carnival season at La Scala has been one of the most successful known for many years. The opera was a new one, 'Il Convitto di baldassare' (Belshazzar's Feast), by Buzzi. The music is quite of the sterling vocal school, and pleases extremely. It suits well the rich voice and peculiar excellence of the first singer, Clara Novello, who is received with enthusiasm by the Milanese as a most accomplished musician. The veteran Rubini came to Milan on this occasion from his country house, expressly to hear the début here of the vocalist whom he had advised, as a young artist, when he heard her in England, to prosecute the opera career. His delight was expressed in no stinted terms, and was further proved by his dropping a hint of returning shortly to Milan, to sing for and with her. There is a decided reaction just now in Italy, in favour of the pure vocal style, against the shouting school which lately prevailed; as an evidence of which, Rossini's operas of 'Mosè in Egitto,' 'Semiramide,' and 'Cenerentola' are talked of for speedy production. The new opera of Buzzi has been superbly put on the stage. The grand scene and tableau of the 'Feast' is an admirable copy of Martin's celebrated picture; while the scenes and dresses have been taken from the Nineveh sculptures in the British Museum.

DURING THE LAST MONTH,

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